Those who are in favour of the motion will say aye those against no.
The ayes have it.

*Motion carried.*

**Mr. President:** I nominate the Advocate-General as the Chairman. The committee will submit its report before the 9th of August.

### (iii) The Cochin Payment of Salaries and Allowances Act (Amendment) Bill

**Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E.** *(Chief Secretary to Government):* Sir, I move that the Cochin Payment of Salaries and Allowances Act (Amendment) Bill be read in Council.

**Mr. M. Sivarama Menon** *(Advocate-General):* I second the motion.

**Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E.** *(Chief Secretary to Government):* This is a Bill which the Government have drafted after hearing the discussion which followed on a similar bill which was introduced at the last Budget meeting. In this Bill provision has been made for the payment of travelling allowance and daily allowance for the Hon'ble Minister's on the same scale as is drawn by the Diwan. We have also provided that this provision should have effect from 1st Chingam 1121.

Another provision in the Bill is that whatever dearness allowance is paid to officers on Rs. 500 should be paid to the Ministers. Another provision is that instead of providing for rent for the Ministers house, a house well furnished, well equipped and properly run should be made available. The last provision is explanatory, aa by giving a car for the Ministers use he should be given also an allowance of Rs. 100 to meet the cost of petrol, oil and other articles, Government meeting all other repairs and also the pay of the chauffeur. These are the provisions of the Bill. I commend the Bill for your acceptance making it clear that the Official (Government) block proposes to remain neutral.

റാവുസാഹിബ്ബ് ടി. കെ. നായർ: ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു് ഇങ്ങിനെ ഒരു ബിൽ കൊണ്ടുവന്നിരിക്കുന്നതിന്റെ അർത്ഥമെന്താണു്? ഇതുപോലെ കഴിഞ്ഞതവണയും ഒരു ബിൽകൊണ്ടുവന്നു. മിനിസ്റ്റീരിയൽ പാട്ടിക്കു ഈവക കാര്യങ്ങളും യാതൊന്നും വേണ്ടെങ്കിൽ പിന്നെന്തിനാണു ഗവർമ്മേണ്ടിതുകൊണ്ടുവന്നിരിക്കുന്നതു്? നിങ്ങൾക്കു ജോലിയില്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടാണൊ ഇങ്ങിനെ ഓരോതവണ ഓരോ ബിൽകൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതു്? ഞാൻ ഇതിനെ എതിർത്തൊ അനുകൂലിച്ചോ ഒന്നുമല്ല പറയുന്നതു്. കഴിഞ്ഞതവണ നിങ്ങൾകൊണ്ടുവന്ന ബിൽ മിനിസ്റ്റീരിയൽ പാട്ടിക്കുംവേണ്ട; മുക്കുംവേണ്ട. അങ്ങിനെയിരിക്കെ പിന്നെ ഇപ്പോഴും എന്തിന്നുകൊണ്ടുവന്നു? ഇതു ഞങ്ങളുടെ കാര്യമല്ലെ? ഈ അധികാരം ഞങ്ങൾക്കു വിട്ടുതന്നുകൂടെ? മന്ത്രിക്കു ശമ്പളം വേണോ, കാർ വേണോ, അലവൻസ് വേണോ, അതെത്രമാത്രംവേണം എന്നൊക്കെ തീർച്ചയാക്കാനുള്ള അധികാരം ഞങ്ങൾക്കുള്ളതല്ലെ? നിങ്ങൾക്കു സൂബോധമുണ്ടാകാൻ വേണ്ടിപറയുകയാണു്. ൪൦൦ രൂപ ശമ്പളം മേടിക്കുന്ന മിനിസ്റ്റർക്കു ഡിയർനസ് അലവൻസ് മേടിക്കാൻ ഒരു ബിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നു! ഇതുകേട്ടാൽതന്നെ നാണമാകയില്ലെ? നിങ്ങൾ ഇങ്ങിനെ ഒരു ബിൽകൊണ്ടുവന്നിട്ടു നിങ്ങൾതന്നെ പറയുന്നു ഞങ്ങൾവോട്ടു ചെയ്യുകയില്ലെന്നു്! Is it a Government Bill?

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri):* Certainly it is.

*റാവുസാഹിബ്ബ് ടി. കെ. നായർ: ഈ സ്ഥിതിക്കു് ഇതുകൊണ്ടുവരുന്ന ഒരുകാര്യം തന്നെ വോട്ടുചെയ്യുകയില്ലെന്നും നിങ്ങളുടെ ബില്ലിനു് നിങ്ങൾതന്നെ മുട്ടുറലായിട്ടിരിക്കുമെന്നും പറയുന്നതിന്റെ അർത്ഥം എന്താണു്? ഞാൻ ഇതു് വെറുംനേരംപോക്കായിട്ടു പറയുകയാണെന്നു് വിചാരിക്കരുതു്. ഞങ്ങളുടെ മന്ത്രിയുടെ ശമ്പളം രണ്ടായിരം ഉറപ്പിക്കയായിവച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. മന്ത്രിയുടെ ശമ്പളം തീർച്ചയാക്കുന്നകാര്യത്തിൽ നിങ്ങൾക്കെന്താണു് അധികാരമുള്ളതു്? നിങ്ങളാണോ ഞങ്ങളുടെ മന്ത്രിയുടെ വിലതീർച്ചയാക്കുവാൻ? ഇതിനുമുമ്പു് മന്ത്രിക്കു് വ൫൦൦ക. ശമ്പളമാക്കണമെന്നുപറഞ്ഞു നിങ്ങളൊരു ബിൽ ഇവിടെ കൊണ്ടുവന്നു, ഞങ്ങളുടെ മന്ത്രിക്കു് വ൫൦൦ക. യാണൊ വില, ഞങ്ങളുടെ മന്ത്രിക്കു് രണ്ടണയോ, അഥവാ രണ്ടായിരം ഉറപ്പിക്കയോ വേണ്ടതെന്നു് തീർച്ചയാക്കുവാനുള്ള അധികാരം ഞങ്ങൾക്കുള്ളതാണു്. ഈവക കാര്യങ്ങളെക്കുറിച്ചു പച്ചമലയാളത്തിൽ പറയുകയാണെങ്കിൽ "നാവന്നു" (ചിരി) എന്നേപറയുന്നുള്ളു. നിങ്ങൾ ഇതുപാസ്സാക്കിയാലും മറെറന്തുചെയ്താലും ഞങ്ങൾക്കു വിരോധമില്ല. ഇത്രമാത്രമേ എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ളു.

*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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**Mr. P. Govinda Menon** *(Ernakulam):* Mr. President, Sir, the Bill now introduced before this House by the Hon'ble Chief Secretary to Government is perfectly in consonance with certain suggestions which I threw out when the Payment of Salalaries and Allowances Act (Amendment) Bill was last introduced in this House. At that time what I on behalf of my party said was that we are against raising the salary of the Minister from Rs. 500 to 850; but we were equally clear that the Minister should be supplied with a free well furnished quarters, that he should be given a car free of all costs and charges and must be given an allowance for petrol and oil of Rs. 100 per mensem. I also said that there will be no objection if Dearness allowance as given to other officers of Government drawing the same aalary as the Minister is provided for him. I understand what my Hon'ble colleague from Pazhayaanur takes objection to is the Government Secretary moving the Bill and throwing it out as a discarded child. They disown their own Bill. That is what Mr. Nayar objects to.

**Mr. President:** Was that thing done on all the previous occasions when a similar one was brought?

**Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar** *(Pazhayannur):* From the very first instance I can understand when the Ministry was installed.

**Mr. President:** Has this practice been followed on every such occassion?

**Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar** *(Pazhyannur):* We had only one occasion.

**Mr. P. Govinda Menon** *(Ernakulam):* We have two amendment Bills within the last year. When the Payment of Salaries Act Amendment Bill came before this House it has been then practice that non-officials alone vote.

**Mr. President:** But it is for the officials to introduce them.

**Mr. P. Govinda Menon** *(Ernakulam):* What the Hon'ble Member from Pazhayannur wants to make out is this. When in 1113 a Minister was appointed for the first time it was the duty of the Government to sponsor a Bill because the Act and the Rules thereunder were prepared by the Government before the Budget Session met and it was placed before this House for being voted upon. At that time the Government Secretary made it clear that it was a Government Bill, only for formality's sake and voting will be done by the non-official members. It was proper which was done that time. If I understand the Hon'ble Member from Pazhayannur correctly, what he means is that having done that at that time it should have been left to the non-official members later to vote upon it, to modify it or to leave it. Two amending Bills have been brought in since the bill was passed and on each occasion the amending bill has been introduced by the official member of the Government and the voting has been left to the non-officials alone. It is that same procedure that has been followed.

**Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar** *(Pazhayannur):* Only one amendment was brought before the House.

**Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E.** *(Chief Secretary to Government):* There were two bills.

**Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar** *(Pazhayannur):* I remember that only one amendment was brought and that amendment was introduced in order to raise the salary of the Minister from Rs. 500 to Rs. 850 and at that time the official section of the House opposed that Government amendment and said that we stick to the original figure of Rs. 500.

**Mr. P. Govinda Menon** *(Ernakulam):* In making that suggestion on behalf of my party, I stated that we will be moving for an allowance as has been done by the present Bill.

**Rama Varmha Tampuran, M.B.E.** *(Chief Secretary to Government):* It was on account of the suggestion that was thrown then that the present Bill is introduced. When the economic conditions are changed, when prices have increased is it not fair that the G vernment should consider these matters and bring a measure for the consideration of the House.

**Mr. P. Govinda Menon** *(Ernakulam):* Therefore, Sir, I still stick on to what I stated at that time and think that the provision as made in the present Bill is satisfactory and necessary. Personally speaking and speaking on behalf of my party, I do not find that there is anything dishonourable or wrong in dearness allowance being given to a Minister. Dearness allowance does not connote anything bad or anything demeaning; probably the Malayalam word. I think my Hon'ble friend is labouring under the significance of that word.

**Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar** *(Pazhayannur):* Not at all.

**Mr. P. Govinda Menon** *(Ernakula n):* Dearness allowance only means such adjustment of the wages and salaries given to public employees as is necessary to meet a changed economic

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situation, the basic salary being what it is. I have never, for a moment, conceded that there is anything wrong or demeaning in dearness allowance. There is nothing derogatory in it and we seek it on what we stated that time and we support the bill introduced by the Chief Secretary to Government.

**Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan** *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur)*: I have to add a word. The whole difficulty began with the throwing out of the Bill for increasing the Minister's salary.

**Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar** *(Pazhayannur)*: Certainly not.

**Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan** *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur)*: Certainly so. Then many felt that the salary was not sufficient. My Hon'ble friend Mr. Panampilli is a juggler and he wated to make up for the deficiency of the salary which he had also to support. He now thinks that the dearness allowance can be given. I also do not think that there is anything wrong in claiming and accepting dearness allowance if it is necessary, considering the present salary of the Minister. The deaness allowance or something more is necessary. The Minister ought to be given at least the salary given to the heads of departments.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri)*: Certainly not so, Sir.

**Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan** *(Ezhuvas-Kantyannur)*: Of course. Many will say that salary does not connote everything. In many cases salary and status go together. There is no reason that the head of the department should get more pay than the Minister.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri)*: Then raise his salary.

**Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan** *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur)*: No, no. This difficulty began elsewhere; it was curtailed in the beginning there; they are revising their view now. It is the Congress that curtailed the salary of the Minister and it was at the instance of Mahatma Gandhi.

**Mr. P. Govinda Menon** *(Ernakulam)*: You mean, at the instance of Mahatma Gandhi, not under his instigation.

**Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan** *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur)*: At the instance of Mahatma Gandhi. He is still holding this view. But all are not Mahatma Gandhis. And all the Ministries are trying to enhance their salaries there. Anyhow I do not find fault with anybody for raising the salary or if it is not possible at present, for giving them any compensation by way of allowance or anything.

**Mr. C. S. Panicker** *(Adur)*: In clear ways.

**Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan** *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur)*: Yes, it is in clear ways as advocated and further supported by the leader of the Prajamandal Party. It is in clear ways—dearness allowance. I have nothing to say.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri)*: I had absolutely no idea, Sir, to intervene in this debate at this stage. I agree that the Bill has introduced by the Government is something necessary at this juncture of time. But the observations made by some Hon'ble Members my friends who preceded me are seen to hold different views, one striking against the other and one member even contradicting himself. This has forced me, Sir to rise up in my seat and make a few observations myself I am glad, Sir, that in introducing this Bill the Government is seen to have grown wiser this side of Makaram 1121. Almost every point of this Bill was the subject matter of my amendments to the then amending Bill moved by the Government to amend the Cochin Payment of Salaries and Allowances Act. I was jeered at for my amendment from this side the right side now which was then my left. If you will look at the proceedings of Makaram 1121.....

**Mr. P. Govinda Menon** *(Ernakulam)*: We do not look back; we look forward.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri)*: Then you are sure to fall into ditches. A man must look backward before he wants to take the next step; otherwise he is not considered to be a proper man to lead. Interruption apart, if you will look to the proceedings of Makaram 1121. When this amending Bill of the Government was considered it fell to my lot to move certain amendments and the contents of the present Bill are nothing but the contents of my amendments at that time.

**Choudhury G. S. Dhara Singh** *(Mattancheri)*: Take credit for that.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri)*: I do not want to take any credit at all. I am here to do my duty and not to take sides in an unreasonable manner.

Sir, to continue the trend of my argument the contents of the present amending Bill and the contents of my then amendments. But here you will be pleased to see another amendment standing in my name.

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**Mr. P. Govinda Menon** *(Ernakulam):* Are you moving it?

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri):* Certainly I shall move it, not now but at the proper time. Now the Hon'ble leader of the Progressive Party has been not correctly understood either by the Hon'ble leader of the opposition or his other esteemed friend the Rao Sahib. His objection, Sir, was the Government having brought forward a Bill, for reasons best known to them, there is no meaning in their saying that they are not going to vote. As I observed Sir, on a former accasion or as observed by the hon'ble leader of the opposition or by some other member when an official Bill for fixing the salaries and allowances of Ministers is brought forward as was done when the dyarchical system was introduced and the Minister appointed, the Government could say we have brought the Bill on our initiative, it is for you now to accept or vary the pay fixed by us for the Minister but we do not vote for the Bill one way or the other since it is completely a non-official matter. Actually the Govrrnment did like that at that time. They had fixed the Hon'ble Ministers salary at Rs. 850. Rightly did the ministerial Party at that time namely the Cochin Congress of which my Hon'ble friend, the Hon'ble leader of the opposition was a Member, bring in an amendment fixing the Ministers salary at Rs. 500 to fall in line with the Congress which they said they are imitating. But the State Congress leader said that the pay of the Minister need only be Rs. 300 in Cochin.

**Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar** *(Pazhayannur):* Sir, it is not my amendment. It is an mendment tabled by Mr. A. Eachara Menon.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri):* I may say, Sir, that the sponsor of that motion Mr. Eachara Menon was a member of the opposition lead by the interrupter. The pay was fixed at Rs. 500 by the non-officials who alone voted on the Bill the Government remaining neutral. A motion was made the other day by the Government to raise it to Rs. 800. Why this more by the Government? I put certain questions when the motion was made by the Government. I asked the Government why the Government brought the Bill. The answer was in the negative. There was no response. Why don't you vote? There was no response. My Hon'ble friend who was then the deputy leader of the Ministerialist party got up in his seat and said that ministerialist party also is not voting for the amendment just as the Government nominated Members were not voting for their own Bill. He left it to be dealt with by the opposition and the unattached members. We accordingly voted and through out the motion for increasing the Minister's salary. Now we had got the present amendment Bill as I said before. Again the Government have tabled an amending Bill and they say they are not voting. Why this farce asks the Hon'ble Mr. Nayar. Either don't bring the Bill or having brought vote for it.

In the amending itself the vision of the Government is seen to be of very short rang. But most of it when we reach the amendment of time. Now I support the motion. I am now anxious that the Government votes and not desert its own child.

**Mr. P. Govinda Menon** *(Ernakulam):* I stated that it was our desire that the Government should not vote.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri):* I am not anxious about that. I make these observations just to clarify the position taken up by Hon'ble. Mr. T. K. Nayar not that he wants me to clarify the point. Mr. Nayar's position was that Government having sponesored the Bill there is no meaning in Government saying they do not vote for the Bill. It is not fair to say that Government are neutral. One word more. The observation that Rao Sahib Ayyappan made is against the position taken up by him when the Salaries Bill was first considered by this Hon'ble House in 1939. He can be quoted against from his own speech in 1939. Please remember that.

**Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan** *(Ezhuvas-Kanayannur):* Personally I was for better salary for the Minister.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri):* The Government agreed to your liking. then their figure in the draft Bill was 850. Something more than the maximum of the highest paid departmental head. But the Government was in thinking that the status of the Minister depended on his pay. It certainly is not so. The Ministers' is a place of dignity and service and not a post for a high pay who ever may occupy that seats. But I am afraid no body could be occupying that seat for some time.

**Mr. P. Govinda Menon** *(Ernakulam):* Why not you be there?

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**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri):* Well, I may tell you hon'ble friend, Sir, that in that case my Honourable friend may enjoy the sight of my working his plans with you and by you. I am of the opinion that the pay of the Hon'ble Minister can be on a par with that of a departmental, head provided the latter's pay is reduced to Rs. 500. But the Minister's status is much higher. It is status and opportunity of service to the public that abstract people to the Minister's office and not the pecuniary enolument thereof. Then why this Rs. 500 even it may be asked. He must be given bare subsistence amounts. That is the kind of Minister that we want. Let us not waste time over the quantum of pay of the Minister. Let it be Rs. 500, it used to be Rs. 500 and the disparity between the Minister's pay and that of the departmental heads can be done away with. Let it be a cause for the leader of the opposition to be taken up early and that is the policy of every party in the Council. No departmental head should be given anything more than Rs. 500 per mensem. Don't be afraid.....

**Mr. President:** I think the Hon'ble Member is wandering away from the point.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan** *(Vadakkancheri):* I shall wind up, Sir. I was discussing upon what the Minister is, what his pay should be, and about the duties of the Minister. He should be a man for service. With these few observations I support the motion for allowing the Minister's dearness allowance allowed to others serving the Government.

**Mr Parambi Lonappen** *(Minister for Public Health):* I, on behalf of the Nationalist Party, wish to make a few observations. We are going to be netural in this Bill because it was the desire of the Members that the Minister's salaries or emoluments must be fixed by the Members of this House and it should not be in any way suspected or doubted that the Ministerialist party supported their motion and got the Bill passed. That is the reason why we are going to be neutral in the matter. I want to make further statement that I never expected such sarcastic insimations from my friend Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar.

**Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar** *(Pazhayannur):* I never said anything about the Minister. I expressed my view about the Bill.

**Mr. Parambi Lonappen** *(Minister for Public Health):* You examine your statement. It is full of sarcasms and insinuations and my sorrow is that such a person who occupies a very high position in life, and who had the honour of being a Minister should make such a statement. Well I regret very much to hear much sarcastic statement from persons like you. I thank the Prajamandal leader for the pleasing manner in which he expressed his views. Government brought forward the Bill in pursuance of the express desire of none. I do not think that Government can be blamed for it.

**Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar** *(Pazhayannur):* There is absolutely no sarcasm in my speech and if the Ministers are not satisfied with this Rs. 500 there is absolutely nothing wrong in coming forward and amending this Bill and revising the salary to Rs. 500. The net result is 500+ 100 = 600. Why not members on that side come forward with the Bill and revise the salary for Rs. 600. It is my view point. So, there is absolutely no sarcasm. It is my personal view. I explained that in the very beginning that the reserved half have absolutely nothing to do with the revision of the pay of the Minister. It may be correct or wrong. When the salary is once fixed at Rs. 500 as my friend explained, the next amendment should be left to be decided by the Ministerialist party and the opposition. That is my view point, I do not oppose this enhancement of the pay by 100 rupees. I only say that it should not be in the shape of a dearness allowance. That is according to my view point. I am not going to change my view. There is absolutely no sarcasm in that; absolutely no quarrel. May the Minister get Rs. 2,000. That is not the issue. I want to make the position very clear. That is all.

*Motion put and carried*

**Secretary to the Council :** The title of the Bill is the Payment of Salaries and Allowances Act (Amendment) Bill.

*The House rose for the day at 5 p.m.*

N. S. RADHAKRISHNA SARMA

*Secretary to the Council*

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